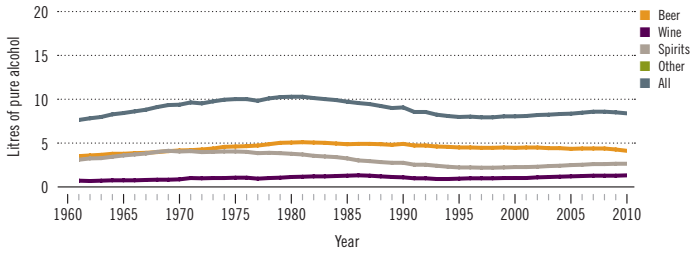
United States of America

Total population: 312 000 000 ➤ Population aged 15 years and older (15+): 80% ➤ Population in urban areas: 82% ➤ Income group (World Bank): High income

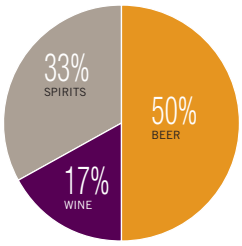
ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION: LEVELS AND PATTERNS

Recorded alcohol per capita (15+) consumption, 1961–2010

Data refer to litres of pure alcohol per capita (15+).



Recorded alcohol per capita (15+) consumption (in litres of pure alcohol) by type of alcoholic beverage, 2010



Alcohol per capita (15+) consumption (in litres of pure alcohol)

	Average 2003–2005	Average 2008–2010		Change
Recorded	8.5	8.7		→
Unrecorded	1.0	0.5		↘
Total	**9.5**	**9.2**		→
Total males / females		13.6	4.9	
WHO Region of the Americas	9.2	8.4		

Total alcohol per capita (15+) consumption, drinkers only (in litres of pure alcohol), 2010

Males (15+)	18.1
Females (15+)	7.8
Both sexes (15+)	13.3

Prevalence of heavy episodic drinking* (%), 2010

	Population	Drinkers only
Males (15+)	23.2	30.9
Females (15+)	10.9	17.3
Both sexes (15+)	16.9	24.5

*Consumed at least 60 grams or more of pure alcohol on at least one occasion in the past 30 days.

Abstainers (%), 2010

	Males	Females	Both sexes
Lifetime abstainers (15+)	6.2	17.4	12.0
Former drinkers* (15+)	18.6	19.6	19.1
Abstainers (15+), past 12 months	24.8	37.0	31.1

*Persons who used to drink alcoholic beverages but have not done so in the past 12 months.

Patterns of drinking score, 2010

LEAST RISKY < 1 **2** 3 4 5 > MOST RISKY

HEALTH CONSEQUENCES: MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

Age-standardized death rates (ASDR) and alcohol-attributable fractions (AAF), 2012

	ASDR*		AAF (%)	
Liver cirrhosis, males / females	14.9	7.1	60.6	62.4
Road traffic accidents, males / females	18.6	7.0	12.4	4.2

*Per 100 000 population (15+).

Years of life lost (YLL) score*, 2012

LEAST < 1 2 3 **4** 5 > MOST

*Based on alcohol-attributable years of life lost.

Prevalence of alcohol use disorders and alcohol dependence (%), 2010*

	Alcohol use disorders**	Alcohol dependence
Males	10.7	6.9
Females	4.2	2.6
Both sexes	7.4	4.7
WHO Region of the Americas	6.0	3.4

*12-month prevalence estimates (15+).
**Including alcohol dependence and harmful use of alcohol.

POLICIES AND INTERVENTIONS

Written national policy (adopted/revised) / National action plan	Yes (2011/2012) / Yes
Excise tax on beer / wine / spirits	Yes / Yes / Yes
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (beer / wine / spirits)	21 / 21 / 21
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (beer / wine / spirits)	21 / 21 / 21
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages:	
Hours, days / places, density	Subnational
Specific events / intoxicated persons / petrol stations	Subnational

National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) when driving a vehicle (general / young / professional), in %	0.08 / Subnational / 0.04
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising / product placement	No / No
Legally binding regulations on alcohol sponsorship / sales promotion	No / No
Legally required health warning labels on alcohol advertisements / containers	Yes / Yes
National government support for community action	Yes
National monitoring system(s)	Yes

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